Email: news@arubatoday.com

Website: www.arubatoday.com Thursday, August 13, 2009

Rotarian dignitaries of Aruba & partners meet



PALM BEACH - Members of the Rotary Club Aruba meet in different locations around the island and this past Monday they met at Moby Dick's Seafood Restaurant. The Rotarians were joined by their

partners for a private dinner in the upstairs dining room the popular seafood The group of restaurant. nearly 80 enjoyed an evening full of great conversation and the most tempting appetizers, entrees.

cocktails and deserts. Moby Dick's has become famous for serving the most unforgettable experience.... That is exactly what continues to entice patrons to continue to come back for more combined with

impeccable service led by restaurant owner Brian Reeve who is also a Rotarian.

The Rotary Club Aruba was chartered December 10th,









1938 and every so often, instead of the regular meeting, they invite their partners for a social evening. Many club members take active part, often as

chairman, in local business

and professional organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Association for Trade and Industry, the Association of Pharmacists, the Bar Association, the







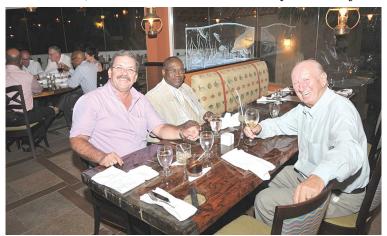


Association of Certified Public Accountants, the Association of Insurance Brokers, the Royal Society of Engineers,

International Service comes naturally to our club because almost all its members are in one way or another involved tourism, international

business, shipping or finance. Intrinsically our Rotarians help improve international relations, promote the island to the world outside, host visiting foreigners, and maintain close and friendly contact with official representatives of foreign nations.

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~





Aruba_TODAY

Head downtown to Casa Tua Barcelona for Lunch and Dinner



ORANJESTAD - The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad for \$19.95.

For entertainment Casa Tua Barcelona offers a Live Flamenco Show on Friday Nights while you can dance on the rhythms of salsa & bolero performed by a live band on Saturday Nights!

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...







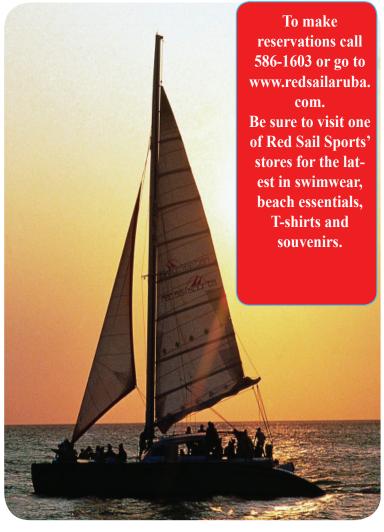
Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

Every Friday

The Mexican Fiesta Dinner Sail is a must do activity

Experience the fun and excitement of sailing Mexican-style aboard one of Red Sail Sports' luxurious catamarans. The 2-hour sail takes you along Aruba's scenic coastline, while being delighted by live Mariachi Music.

This vibrant unforgettable sail provides a casual Mexican Buffet Dinner and a complimentary bar featuring Coronita beer, Margaritas, and Tequilas. Watch the sun set, the colors of the sky change and the island slowly light up. This is the perfect sail to celebrate the end of a Caribbean day and the start of a fun filled Caribbean night.





LOCAL A3 Thursday, August 13, 2009



Experience Aruba's Seafood Sensation!

Chic New England décor • New al fresco terrace

Located across from the Hyatt and Occidental Resort, next door to Amazonia Churrascaria.

Open Monday thru Saturday 6pm - 11pm.

Sunday 5pm - 11PM.

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For information and reservations: Tel: 586-5900 • E-mail: aqua-grill@setarnet.aw • www.aqua-grill.com

At La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club

PFTSA, Pension Fund Tourism Sector Aruba Conducts a General Assembly



EAGLE BEACH – The PFTSA, Pension Fund Tourism Sector Aruba, called for its annual General Assembly with a busy agenda. Having greeted the members

present Managing Director Sanaa Baroud welcomed the forum and in collaboration with Chairman PFTSA Board Ben Marapin, went through the agenda points.





included Agenda points approval of last year's General Assembly minutes, a welcome of new member companies, a statement of the PFTSA mission and the PFTSA goal, the organization's financial performance in 2008 including its balance sheet, financial highlights, and income results, as well as the organization's objectives for 2009, its plans for the construction completion of the PFTSA building on Saskiweg, free word and closing statements. PFTSA Board members Glenn Farro, Valerie Pietersz-Camacho, Lisette Mohammed, and Paul Vandormael, joined Chairman PFTSA Board Ben Marapin and Managing Director Sanaa Baroud in answering questions concerns from the floor.

The PFTSA was founded in 1992 as an initiative of Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association and the FTA workers' union, as they both shared the same vision for the need to create



a pension plan which would provide workers in the tourism industry with additional income after retirement on top of the general old age pension provided by the government. Currently there are 38 member

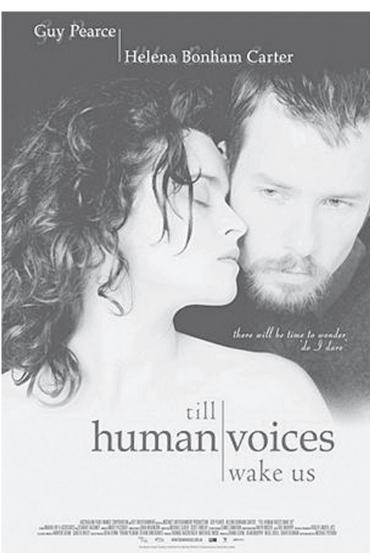
companies affiliated with PFTSA who together have 2309 employees participating. The regulatory body for the PFTSA foundation is the Central Bank of Aruba.





"Musa Art House Theater" presents

"Till Human Voices Wake Us" tonight in O'stad



ORANESTAD - Musa Art - who he winds up saving after House Theater has the honor of inviting you to a special film cycle on Art House films. These films have received international acclaim and give us a glimpse of the new global cinema. Tonight, "Till Human Voices Wake Us " by: Michael Petroni, Thursday 13th August 2009 at 8.00pm.

Till Human Voices Wake Us has all the makings of an epic love story - flashbacks and everything - but the languid pace and muted performances prevent the film from becoming anything more than a really well-shot and occasionally brilliantly acted romance.

As the movie opens, Sam (Guy Pearce) receives word that his father has passed away. He heads back to his hometown to collect the body, and while en route he begins remembering his childhood. Specifically, one pivotal summer during which he began a short-lived romance with a local girl named Silvy. Back in the present, he meets an enigmatic woman named Ruby (Helena Bonham Carter)

she tries committing suicide. The attempt leaves her with amnesia, though, and the two work at restoring her memory while Sam comes to grips with that unforgettable summer.

Till Human Voices Wake Us marks the directorial debut ofscreenwriterMichaelPetroni (he wrote The Dangerous Lives of Alter Boys and co-wrote, uh, Oueen of the Damned), and suffers from just the sort of indulgences one expects from a first-timer. Petroni isn't terribly concerned with creating a consistently entertaining film; rather, his focus is on whipping up an enigmatic atmosphere, rife with characters reflecting on their lives. Sam should have been a compelling figure especially once we learn how traumatic his childhood was but Petroni prefers to keep us at arms length from the character. Though Pearce is quite good in this role, he's unable to turn Sam into someone we really care about - due mostly to Petroni's refusal to imbue the character with any defining characteristics other than

longing and suffering.

All of that is exacerbated by the film's dreamy style; the camera lingers on trees and still waters, and it's presumably all supposed to add up to something majestic. And while there's no denying that the cinematography Roger Lanser) is impressively gorgeous, it's hard to be too impressed by it when you're bored silly. That's a mild overstatement - the performances alone assure that the film remains consistently watchable - but Petroni's leisurely approach to the material indicates that this would've been far more effective as a short.

And by the time the film's secrets have been revealed most notably the true identity of Ruby - it's hard to really care. We've been beaten into submission by the pace (which is virtually stationary), which undoubtedly gives the film a meditative air, but since there's nothing much of interest here, we're forced into daydreaming about mundane things (ie did I turn the oven off when I left the house?) Still, it's not a complete wash - the film is quite spectacular on a purely visceral level and the performances (particularly the two kids playing Sam and

Silvy) are better than the script deserves.

Contribution is suggested in order to continue with our film club presentation. (Afl 10,-)

N.B.: Remember that it's possible to enjoy a light snack before the film at the newly reopened" Musa Café ", This night will also be a good opportunity to view the fantastic exhibit by Gustave Nouel, Danilo Geerman, Belinda De Veer, Adolf Valbuena, Mo Mohammed, Jean Girigori, Noff El Hadi and other works by local and regional artist exhibited.

Duncan briefs Richardson on possibilities with Dominica

PHILIPSBURG--Constitutional Affairs servicing agreements with Dominica; Minister Roland Duncan on Monday briefed Economic Affairs Commissioner Frans Richardson on his visit to Dominica, a stop-over which was part of the Minister's nine-day visit to several Caribbean countries.

During talks held in Dominica, the last destination visited, the Minister used the opportunity to discuss relevant tourism and trade issues with Dominica's Minister of Tourism Ian Douglas and other officials.

With tourism, economic affairs and aviation falling under the auspices of Commissioner Richardson, the Minister thought it prudent to relay some of the information to Richardson, who can then explore ways and means of strengthening cooperation, economic or otherwise, between St. Maarten and Dominica.

While discussions still have to take place on various levels, Dominica, the Minister said, showed great interest in Princess Juliana International Airport functioning as a main gateway to Dominica; Winair resuming its service to the island and/or possibly agreeing on special

and regularizing and enhancing trade opportunities to benefit consumers.

"Speaking generally, these were just some of the points I raised with the Commissioner. The finer details will now have to be worked out by the Commissioner. I believe these are very important issues, so most naturally I will be available to assist as much as I can on the federal level," the Minister said.

He added that once back in Curação, he will present a formal, detailed report to the Central and Island Governments.

The purpose of his nine-day visit was to give the Caribbean islands insight into the constitutional changes taking place in the Netherlands Antilles and to explore and strengthen ties in the region.

He visited Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Lucia and Dominica.

He also met with representatives of the Caribbean Community Caricom, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).



"FAVI FUNDACION **CU VISION"**



ADVERTISEMENT A5 Thursday, August 13, 2009



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July 9th	Crystal	AWG 7500
July 16th	Seaport	AWG 7500
July 23th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
July 30th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
Assessed Ctb	Corretal	AWG 7500
August 6th	Crystal	111.0100
August 13th	Seaport	AWG 7500
August 20th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
August 27th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
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September 3rd	Crystal	AWG 7500
September 10th	Seaport	AWG 7500
September 17th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
September 24th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay

For more information please call: 523-6318 of 523-6437

Winner must be present at the drawing with valid ID to claim their prize.



Aruba_TODAY

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friendly atmosphere, pool and BBQ area. The apartments are fully

furnished.

Sasaki Apartments has been recently recognized by trip advisor's users as # 1of specialty lodging in Noord and also as a 100% recommended of several reviews.

Even if the owners, management and staff are proud of the recognition, it only encourages them to keep improving and giving the guests the very best service. They thank all the repeating customers that give the best "award" by coming back again every year and recommending Sasaki Apts. also to their friends. At this moment the web site is being updated, so more information will be available, about specials, services and much more.

Puppies in need of homes





ORANJESTAD - We are three cuties looking for a home, please rescue us from life in the street, we are ready for love, call Christina if you wish to adopt any of the puppies tel.: 730 4675. One visit to the vet can make us travel ready.

Take a souvenir home with you from Aruba, a West Point Retriever - that's ORwhat we're called or in Papiamento Cacho di Caya.



ADVERTISEMENT A7 Thursday, August 13, 2009

BISTRO

TASTE OF BELGIUM

Elegance and affordable luxury!

Taste of Belgium... a Bistro with a twist

PALM BEACH - Taste of Belgium's Bistro is located in the intimate courtyard of the Paseo Herencia Mall across from the Holiday Inn Resort. It is cozy and casual: one can have a drink with friends, have a quick bite before grabbing a movie or relax and lounge away the afternoon and evening in the balmy breeze underneath the stars. The Bistro's great selection of Belgian beers has drawn many beer lovers to the mall already, but it is its exquisite food, ample portions and great prices that keep folks coming back for more every night of the week.

The Bistro's menu offers everyone's favorites, but with a culinary Belgian twist. This might be an unusual

presentation, an awesome side dish, a stunning combination, a surprising regional dish or a dessert that takes you to heaven and back a few times. Good service and lots of smiles will surely make the Bistro one of your favorite places to go to. Open for coffee, lunch, drinks, dinner and cocktails.

Early Bird

When the rays of the sun start fading and the shadows grow a bit longer, many choose for an exceptionally good option for dinner: the Early Bird Special! The restaurant's sundown, 3-course menu is spectacular and its price can't be beat for \$ 25.00. Daily 5pm – 7pm.

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Paseo Herencia Mall | Tel: 5866388 | bistro@tasteofbelgium.aw | www.tasteofbelgium.aw

The best Brazilian Steakhouse in Aruba! Serving the Island's most exquisite deserts...

The best salad bar can be found in Texas



PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge. The Brazilian-style steakhouse alsooffersupagardenfullofhealthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

slow-roasted meats. A selection of

Restaurant open daily

Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11 Sunday 5 pm - 11 pm

For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686.□





Thursday, August 13, 2009 LOCAL

Anubu-TODAY



LOCAL A9 Thursday, August 13, 2009

La Cabana spends a glorious day at the beach



















& Racquet Club held its annual snacks throughout the afternoon. family day on de Palm Island. Millennium Disco kept the dance More than 500 kids of all ages - floor packed and upon special - including the adults who turned request of General Manager Joe kids for the day -- crossed the Najjar played a round of classic channel from Port de Palm to the Rock 'n Roll hits. Private Island by ferry, ready to The day was spend snorkeling and experience a spectacular fun-filled visiting with the blue parrotfish,

The De Palm island culinary team under shady cabanas, playing





lounging on comfortable chairs





beaches – anything from Dominos to Volleyball - and bouncing around the thrilling wet and wild water park, keeping the six water slides busy at all times. Our pictures are a testimony to the fun had by all.











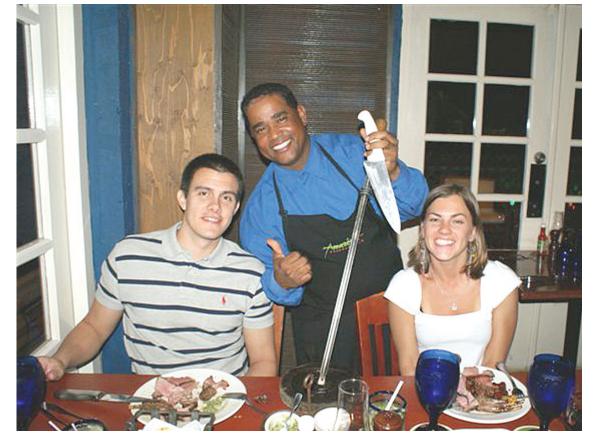
Thursday, August 13, 2009 LOCAL

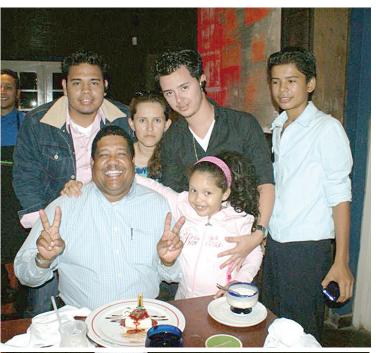
Aruba TODAY

Family fun at Amazonia Churrascaria











PALM BEACH – Families love Amazonia, and Amazonia loves families.

The famed Palm Beach Brazilian-style steakhouse enjoysfeedingandentertaining families on vacation on the island.

The locals, also frequent the restaurant, when celebrating special occasions with friends and family members.

Tuesday evening the pretty Natalie Stefano turned 21 at Amazonia Churrascaria. The NY native, staying with her proud parents and other family members at the Aruba Marriott Resort, also celebrated her 20th birthday here last year, at the same restaurant. "It has become a tradition," says Mom, "we're coming back each year, and this is our fifth."

Alberto Morel, a local businessman received birthday wishes and hugs from wife Marisol, beloved daughter Laura and sons Luis, Roy and Miguelangelo. Morel, a successful construction contractor enjoyed the Happy Birthday ritual orchestrated by the friendly waiters and carvers, playing an improvised bongo and singing in a chorus.

In the restaurant bar room, Terry & Connie Aldridge, from Tulsa Oklahoma vacationing at the Dutch Village, enjoyed a sumptuous family dinner with daughter Jenn, living here with her just-married husband, David Coster.





ked out' from const

PHILIPSBURG--The negotiable and fixed date on which St. Maarten will attain country status must be in "black and white" and agreed to by all relevant parties in the Kingdom before any talks can start on a date for the next election, which should be for the first parliament of St. Maarten, Democratic Party (DP) leader Island Councilwoman Sarah Wescot-Williams said Tuesday.

A firm date for the attainment of country status is supposed to be pinned down at the end of September when the Political Steering Group of the Kingdom meets to iron out several pending matters. Wescot-Williams said the date must be ratified at the forum, but pushing for this requires all parties to work together.

Parties in the Kingdom Political Steering Group had agreed in June that country status for St. Maarten and Curação would be in place by no later than the end of October 2010. For this deadline to be met, elections for the first parliaments of the new countries must be held at least by August 2010, according to Wescot-Williams.

However, DP has been shut out from information or dialogue by the National Alliance (NA)/Heyliger government, which shows no indication that it wants to involve the opposition, a route taken by the former DP-led government, but abandoned by the new one, she pointed out. Asked about the DP's involvement in the process of constitutional change since taking the opposition benches, she said "absolutely no information" had been shared by Constitutional Affairs William Commissioner Marlin, but that her party stood firm in its commitment to country status.

The "blackout" has kept the opposition party out of the loop

about the options suggested by a committee of experts about postponement or cancellation Netherlands of Antilles parliamentary elections that, based on the constitution, are due in January, she said.

She added that the NA/ Heyliger government had not been sticking to the line it promised parties involved in the constitutional change process.

A change to the constitution is needed for any change to the date for the parliamentary election, whether to prolong the life of the current Antillean Parliament or to prepare for electing the first parliaments of countries St. Maarten and Curação, and this will take time. Wescot-Williams said there seemed to be little political will to do what is

necessary, because the Central Government, which the NA/ Heyliger government supports, had not made any proposal as yet to Parliament to make the necessary changes.

Commissioner Marlin had stated that the new government would continue as a team to further the process of country status. He had invited Wescot-Williams to join the first round of constitutional meetings in Curação after taking office in June. However, she had declined, saying that she was going to give the new commissioner some breathing

Wescot-Williams joined the meeting later, but this was not without criticism from Marlin, who claimed that only when things were being achieved by the new government had DP, in particular Wescot-Williams, wanted to be a part of the delegation.

The fundamental difference between former leader of government Wescot-Williams and the current one Marlin is that Wescot-Williams has always maintained that St. Maarten is ready to take on the responsibilities that come with being a country, while Marlin contends that the island needs quite some help getting there. Based on his view, Marlin and Constitutional Affairs Minister Roland Duncan (NA) had sought and received assistance from the Central Government to establish branches of departments that St. Maarten does not have, as foundations to take over new responsibilities as the Antilles is dismantled.

World Series Softball Players Get Swine Flu Checkup

BY APRIL BAER

Girls from around the world are coming to Portland to compete in the Little League Softball world series. As April Baer reports, health officials are trying to make sure they don't bring unwanted viral guests with them.

Preparations are underway for the ten teams playing at Portland's Alpenrose Fields.

With mowers buzzing through the infield grass, and over a hundred girls arriving from as far away as Anchorage, Milan, and Guam, Providence St. Vincent sent a volunteer physician to screen the players for any evidence of illness.

Specifically, Dr. Ken Dirk is looking for swine flu.

Ken Dirk "If it's a routine illness, as long as they don't have a high fever, they aren't displaying symptoms consistent with the flu, we leave it up to the league to allow them to play."

Most of the time, Dirk says, the symptoms turn out to be something like asthma. As long as the girls have passed the two-week contact window for contagion, they're usually cleared to play.

As the Series begins, East Division winners Pennsylvania will take on Latin American champs Curacao on Thursday

District 4 champs Beaverton play Thursday night at 8.

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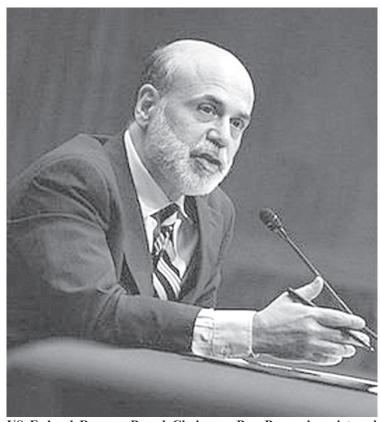


Thursday, August 13, 2009 BUSINESS

Aruba_TODAY

BUSILES - TODAY

Fed says economy leveling out; rates stay at lows



US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke, pictured here in July 2009, said the Federal Open Market Committee "continues to anticipate that economic conditions are likely to warrant exceptionally low levels of the federal funds rate for an extended period.

"(AFP/File/Karen Bleier)

July.

By JEANNINE AVERSA, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON – The Federal Reserve delivered a vote of confidence in the economy Wednesday, saying it would slow the pace of an emergency rescue program and indicating the recession appears to be ending.

The central bank also held interest rates steady at record lows, with a closely watched bank lending rate near zero, and again pledged to keep them there for "an extended period" to nurture an anticipated recovery.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues said the economy appeared to be "leveling out" — a considerable upgrade from their last meeting in June, when the Fed observed only that the economy's contraction was slowing.

"We're no longer at DEFCON 1," said Richard Yamarone,

economist at Argus Research, referring to the defense term used to indicate being under siege. "The Fed is pulling in some of its life preservers now that the economy is no longer sinking."

The more optimistic tone lifted Wall Street. The Dow Jones industrials gained about 120 points, or 1.3 percent, to close above 9,360 — near their highest level since the market bottomed out in early March.

The Fed said it would gradually slow the pace of its program to buy \$300 billion worth of Treasury securities and shut it down at the end of October, a month later than previously scheduled.

It has bought \$253 billion of the securities so far. The program is designed to force interest rates down for mortgages and other consumer debt and spur Americans to spend more money.

"I think the Fed is feeling increasingly comfortable about where the economy is going," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "For the first time in two years, the Fed is taking one step — a baby step — toward unwinding the massive stimulus."

The Treasury-buying program's effectiveness has been questioned on both Wall Street and Capitol Hill, with critics saying it looks like the Fed is printing money to pay for Uncle Sam's spending binge.

As the Fed winds down the program, rates on government debt might edge higher, economists said. But the Fed appeared to feel sufficiently secure that higher rates would not jeopardize a recovery, they said.

Chris Rupkey, an economist at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, viewed it as a "vote of confidence that credit markets and the economic outlook has improved and will show even further improvement down the road."

The Fed left unchanged another program that aims to push down mortgage rates. In that venture, the Fed is on track to buy \$1.25 trillion worth of securities issued by mortgage finance companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac by the end of the year.

The central bank's recent purchases have totaled about \$543 billion, suggesting the Fed still has firepower in its arsenal.

The Fed left the target range for its bank lending rate at zero to 0.25 percent. And economists think it will stay there through the rest of this year. The rationale: Super-cheap lending will lead Americans to spend more, which will support the economy.

If the Fed holds rates steady, commercial banks' prime lending rate, used as a peg for rates on home equity loans, certain credit cards and other consumer loans, will stay at about 3.25 percent, the lowest in decades.

The Fed gave its assessment after its first meeting since the economy began flashing significant signs of turning a corner. They include fewer job losses in July, slower economic contraction and stabilizing consumer spending. But dangers still lurk.

Further job losses, sluggish income growth, hits to wealth from tanking home values and still-hard-to-get credit could make Americans cautious in the months ahead, the Fed said.

The Fed expressed confidence that low rates and other aggressive action will gradually bolster the economy. Even so, economic activity probably will "remain weak for a time," the Fed warned. Against that backdrop, the Fed said inflation is likely to stay "subdued."

Citigroup shares gain nearly 8 percent

By SARA LEPRO,

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – Shares of Citigroup Inc. rose nearly 8 percent Wednesday, outpacing gains among other financial stocks, amid a brighter outlook on the economy from the Federal Reserve.

Shares rose 29 cents, or 7.9 percent, to close regular trading at \$3.98 — the stock's highest close in three months.

The rise in Citigroup shares and other financial stocks helped lead the stock market higher Wednesday as investors welcomed a slightly more upbeat tone from the Fed on the economy. The central bank said the economy appears to be "leveling out." Previously, the Fed said the economy's decline was slowing.

The change in the Fed's language was enough to reassure investors that their improving sentiments on the economy have been wellfounded.

Citigroup shares have jumped 54 percent in the last month as investors bet big banks will see better business as the economy improves. The stock has more than quadrupled since it slid below \$1 in early March on fears that the bank might crumble under the weight of rising loan losses and soured investments.

Also likely helping to boost Citigroup's shares are recent moves by several executives to increase their stakes in the company. Investors see this as a vote of confidence in the bank, said Anton Schutz, portfolio manager of Burnham Financial Industries Fund and Burnham Financial Services Fund.

"Insider buying is always a good thing," Schutz said. On Monday, Chairman Richard Parsons disclosed in a regulatory filing that he recently purchased nearly 16,000 shares. That followed purchases by newly appointed Citibank CEO Eugene McQuade and Manuel Medina-Mora, the head of Citi's Latin American and Mexican operations.

According to filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, both McQuade and Medina-Mora bought 1 million shares last week at prices ranging from \$3.19 to \$3.61 apiece. Citigroup brought in McQuade, a veteran bank executive, to lead its main banking group in

Earlier this week, Citi said it approved \$6 billion in new lending initiatives during the second quarter as part of its programs supported by government bailout funds.

Citigroup has received \$45 billion in TARP money since last October.

BUSINESS A13 Thursday, August 13, 2009

tocks jump as Fed raises view of economy

By TIM PARADIS, **AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK – A more upbeat Federal Reserve is reassuring investors that they've been making the right bets.

Stocks bounded higher Wednesday after the central bank ended a two-day meeting saying the economy appears to be "leveling out" rather than shrinking at a slower rate. The Fed's more positive take on the economy than it had in June wasn't surprising but it still bolstered hopes for a recovery.

Wednesday's advance reenergizedthemarket's summer rally after it had stalled on Monday and Tuesday. Major market indexes jumped more than 1 percent, including the Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 120 points. Longterm Treasurys fell after the Fed said it would slow its purchases of government debt

Financial and technology shares posted some of the strongest gains after a ratings upgrade and profit reports provided evidence of a rebound. The stock market's advance was itself adding to bank and insurance stock gains — its climb means their investment portfolios are surging in value.

Investors who sent stocks soaring the past four weeks on expectations for a recovery went into Wednesday hoping for a change in the Fed's language. Many investors were anticipating that the central bank's assessment might be moving closer to their own after the Labor Department said Friday that the nation's unemployment rate fell in July for the first time in 15 months.

The Fed's statement was particularly gratifying after traders suffered an attack of nerves Tuesday that slashed 1 percent from the major indexes. Concerns about the health of banks fed that drop, but the Fed's comments soothed those fears. The central bank also left interest rates unchanged, as expected. "They did really endorse the fact that we're moving into recovery, not searching

for the bottom," said Bruce McCain, chief investment strategist at Key Private Bank in Cleveland.

The Fed also said it would slow the pace of its program to buy \$300 billion worth of Treasury securities so that it will close at the end of October, rather than September as planned. The central bank has bought \$253 billion of the securities so far. The program is designed to reduce rates on mortgages and other consumer debt.

"The fact that they are going to wind down the Treasury purchases I think leaves the clear impression that they are quite satisfied with the progress we are making in the recovery," McCain said.

But some analysts are skeptical that the market can maintain its climb even with the Fed's more optimistic words. The S&P 500 index is up 14.4 percent in little more than a month and 48.7 percent since it fell to a 12-year low in early March.

"It looks like a pretty sharp rise to me to have a lot of sustainability," said Dan Cook, senior market analyst at IG Markets in Chicago.

The Dow rose 120.16, or 1.3 percent, to 9.361.61. The Standard & Poor's 500 index

rose 11.46, or 1.2 percent, to 1,005.81, while the Nasdag composite index gained 28.99, or 1.5 percent, to 1,998.72.

Rising stocks outpaced those that fell 5-to-2 on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume fell to 5.5 billion shares from 5.8 billion Tuesday. Light volume can skew price moves but is typical of late summer when many traders take vacations.

Investors found encouragement Wednesday from a range of industries.

Peter Jankovskis, co-chief investment of ficer at Oak BrookInvestments in Lisle, Ill., said quarterly results from luxury homebuilder Toll Brothers Inc. and retailer Macy's Inc. could be signaling that consumption is increasing. That is key to a recovery because consumer spending accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity.

Homebuilders jumped after Toll Brothers said 3 percent more homebuyers signed contracts in its fiscal third quarter, the first annual increase in four years.

The company's statement that many of its markets are improving boosted confidence because analysts point to unemployment and housing as



Trader Anthony Alvarino uses a phone post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

two of the biggest obstacles to a rebound. Toll jumped \$2.94, or 14.4 percent, to \$23.42. Macy's reported a better-than-

expected second-quarter profit and cited cost-cuts in raising its full-year earnings forecast. The retailer rose 93 cents, or 6 percent, to \$16.40.

Insurers led financial stocks higher after S&P raised its credit outlook for Travelers Cos. The commercial and personal property insurer advanced \$1.50, or 3.3 percent, to \$46.43.

Tech shares rose after Applied Thursday.

Materials Inc.'s fiscal thirdquarter results topped analysts' expectations. The maker of equipment for manufacturing semiconductors rose 44 cents, or 3.3 percent, to \$13.66.

Meanwhile, bond prices were mixed after an auction of \$23 billion in 10-year Treasury notes saw demand in line with recent levels but down from last month. The Treasury Department is issuing a record \$75 billion in three auctions this week. The third, for \$15 billion in 30-year bonds, is

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Can Corals Survive In A Warming World?



Ramon deLeon, left, and Mark Vermeij return from a dive to study the health of Bonaire's coral reef.

by Richard Harris

Coral reefs are the rain forests of the oceans, teeming with diverse and postcard-perfect fish, towering sponges and multicolored coral. And like rain forests, they are in jeopardy.

Global warming is a long-term threat to the world's coral reefs. And this summer, the risk to Caribbean corals could be acute. Federal scientists warn that the seas could be unusually warm. And warm water can be deadly for corals.

Scientists can't do anything about overheating ocean waters. But they are exploring ways to keep reefs resilient, so they can better withstand heat shock.

This spring, a team of scientists converged on the tiny Caribbean Island of Bonaire to study the reef and understand what keeps it healthy.

The ecology of the reef isn't the only thing at stake — so is the very economy of the island.

"Bonaire is known as a diver's paradise," says Ramon deLeon, who is in charge of the marine park that encircles the island. "Anywhere from 50 to 70 percent of the economy is running on tourism, and 90 percent of the tourism is diving tourism."

A Reef Check-Up

On this balmy evening, deLeon

thinking that climate change was actually one of the most important threats to corals at the moment. So people started looking at why coral reefs recover from bleaching or why they don't."

That's one reason they've come to Bonaire. The reef here was hit hard during the 1998 bleaching episode. Marine biologist Mark Vermeij, from the nearby island of Curacao, remembers it vividly.

"The reef slope actually looked like a mountain slope full of snow. People here were taking their skis out and took pictures for home — like they were skiing the coral reefs."



Glassy sweepers are small nervous fish that can cluster in groups of 100 or more. When they're young, their bodies are nearly transparent, allowing an observer to see what these fish just ate.

has come to this combination bar and dive shop to meet up with a team of scientists. They plan to spend the next 10 days in the water, to see how the reef is doing.

Gabriel Grimsditch, from the conservation group IUCN, has organized the research. He explains that this is part of a project that's taking place around the globe. It was stimulated by a massive ocean warming episode 11 years ago. Overheated waters worldwide forced the colorful microorganisms that live inside the coral to abandon their homes. The coral turned white — it bleached. And a staggering 16 percent of all the world's coral died off during that episode.

"And it basically got people

But much to everybody's relief, the coral here didn't die off. The live-in microorganisms eventually returned to the mineral coral skeletons. The reef regained its color and came back to life.

Too Many Nutrients

The next day, the biologists take their first dive. It's right off one of the many resorts on Bonaire. Ramon deLeon squeezes into his wetsuit and straps on a 35-pound tank.

Clipboard in one hand, measuring square in the other, deLeon trudges across a small beach of imported sand and leads his colleagues into the water.

This resort looks idyllic — the sand, palm trees, a tiki hut bar. But as Mark Vermeij emerges from the dive an hour later, he says the reef offshore looks bad. "This is not something you get happy about, that's for sure," he says. Many of the corals had toppled over — the result of Tropical Storm Omar last October.

That in itself shouldn't be such a big deal. Reefs have been clobbered by storms for millions of years, and recovered. But Vermeij says the added stress of living alongside human beings made it hard for this reef to bounce back. For one thing, nutrient runoff from the resort's lush gardens have encouraged green algae to smother the coral in places.

"You hit them once and everything else follows. Algal overgrowth, diseases, death by a thousand cuts. That's what this is, right here."

Pinpointing The Problems

Study coordinator Gabriel Grimsditch says pinpointing the problems — and eliminating the causes — can actually help corals to recover from bleaching and natural disturbances.

"We're trying to give [park manager Ramon deLeon] some data he can point to so he can tell people the reef is being affected in this way. And there are certain actions you can take to improve the resilience of the reef."

We clamber into one of the park's well worn pick-up trucks and drive along the narrow island roads. This is actually a desert island, as in arid. But people want it to look like the classic Caribbean paradise, so they plant coconut palms and other vegetation. Then they water. And the water rushes through the porous soils, sweeping nutrients with it.

"These nutrients will end up, sooner or later, in the reef," de Leon says.

Nobody wants to hurt the reef, he says. On the other hand, nobody really wants to hear from the park manager that they need to change their ways.

"Sometimes you have to point fingers and say: 'This is the problem. You are the cause. You have to solve it," deLeon says. "Nobody likes that so we have to do it very carefully. But overall I think people appreciate what we do for the coral reef here."

Signs Of Hope

Since deLeon came to Bonaire 11 years ago from Uruguay, he's been telling people that if they care about the reef, they need to think differently about everything from coastal development and irrigation, to fishing.

And when he wants to show off just how healthy a reef can be, he takes people to one of the island's more remote and unpopulated dive spots.

In fact, the science team heads to one of those pristine sites the next day. An island mockingbird calls down from a cactus as the divers gear up.

Once again, the divers disappear beneath the waves. But this time, when Mark Vermeij comes back, he looks happier. This reef, he says, is "orders of magnitudes better" than the one at the resort.

Vermeij says the reef here felt the impact of the same storm that caused so much damage down the coast last fall."The place got hammered like hell, but it's grown back like hell, too," he says.

Everything that should be working to help the reef recover is working here, he says.

Coral "that were lying on the ground are growing back. There are lots of parrotfish. Everybody's happy. But, yeah, it doesn't result in a postcard reef sort of thing. No. Resilience: the ability to come back after you got kicked very hard. This is the place where it actually works like that."

The lesson here is clear. A reef that's healthy to begin with can rebound. So, he says, to help these rich and abundant ecosystems survive global warming, we need to reduce the stresses that are on them now.



Ramon deLeon, manager of Bonaire National Marine Park, surveys a section of coral, recording his observations with an underwater pen and notepad.



A diver swims amid schools of fish near the island of Bonaire. Scientists warn that unusually warm ocean waters could be deadly to these fragile ecosystems.

NY lawsuit v. Anna Nicole Smith book's author OK'd



FILE - In this Dec. 1, 2004 file photo, Anna Nicole Smith poses for a photo as she arrives for the VH1 'Big in '04' awards in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill, file) By LARRY NEUMEISTER, **Associated Press Writer**

NEW YORK - A jury can decide whether the author of a best-selling book about the death of ex-Playboy playmate Anna Nicole Smith defamed her lawyer by making allegations that may be too outlandish to be true, including that he pimped her to up to 50 men a year, a judge concluded Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Denny Chin found plenty of reasons to let a jury hear the facts behind a \$60 million libel lawsuit brought by lawyer Howard K. Stern against "Blonde Ambition" author Rita Cosby, a veteran television news anchor and "Inside Edition" correspondent. The lawsuit was filed less than a month after the book was published in September 2007.

The judge said the book's claim that Stern had a sexual relationship with Larry Birkhead, the father of Smith's child, was "nothing short of explosive. Perhaps too explosive." "In other words," he said, "printing a claim that Birkhead and Stern had sex would be a way to make it to the top of the bestseller list, and a reasonable jury could find that Cosby ignored the inherently improbable nature of the statement in her zeal to write a blockbuster book."

Stern and Birkhead have denied any sexual relationship between them.

The judge said there was "substantial evidence" to let a reasonable jury find Cosby

acted with malice in stating in the book that Smith obtained a copy of a videotape of Birkhead and Stern having sex and regularly watched it in front of her nannies.

He noted that Cosby traveled to the Bahamas after Stern filed the lawsuit to try to meet with the nannies and in a conversation with one of their representatives proposed paying the nannies to sign an affidavit supporting the statements attributed to them in the book, which was published by Hachette Book Group USA Inc. The judge, who dropped the publisher as a defendant, called Cosby's actions "extremely troubling" and said they "suggest that she was attempting to obstruct justice by tampering with witnesses." He said a reasonable jury could conclude that Cosby knew she had fabricated the information about Smith watching videotape and "was desperate to come up with an after-thefact verification of one of the more salacious and explosive allegations in the book."

He also said a jury can decide whether there was malice in the book's statements that Smith thought Stern was involved in the death of her son and that many people in Smith's inner circle thought Stern was involved in her death. He tossed out eight of 19 other claims.

Cosby lawyer Elizabeth A. McNamara said she was gratified the judge had dismissed some of the statements at issue in the case and was "fully confident" the jury would dismiss the others once it hears the evidence surrounding Stern's life with Smith.

The judge also wrote that there was evidence that Cosby made up quotes. He said a jury could conclude that statements in the book that Smith knowingly acted as a prostitute with Stern as her pimp or that Stern drugged her and pimped her to as many as 50 men a year "are so inherently improbable that Cosby was reckless in including them in the book."

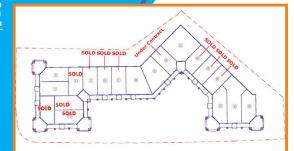
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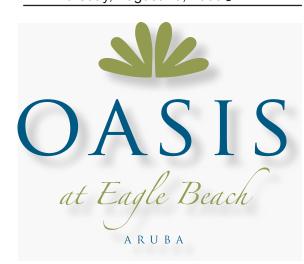
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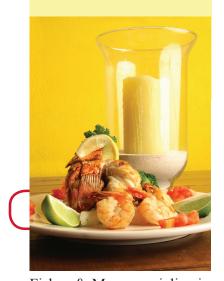


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On Top Of The News

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Thursday, August 13, 2009



U.S. Marines of Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Regiment take a position on a rooftop while fighting the Taliban in the village of Dahaneh Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009, in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. Operation Eastern Resolve 2 launched Wednesday morning in an attempt to push Taliban from the village which is a key commerce town in the province.

Associated Press

Marines assault Taliban town in Afghanistan

ALFRED de MONTESQUIOU

Associated Press Writer

DAHANEH, Afghanistan (AP) — Helicopterborne U.S. Marines backed by Harrier jets stormed a Taliban-held town in southern Afghanistan before dawn Wednesday, the launch of a new operation to uproot Taliban fighters from a longtime base and provide security for next week's presidential election.

The troops exchanged heavy fire with insurgents, killing at least seven in an offensive they hoped would also cut Taliban supply lines and isolate their fighters.

Associated Press journalists traveling with the first wave said militants fired small arms, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades after helicopters dropped the troops over Taliban lines. Fighting lasted more than eight hours, as Harrier jets streaked overhead and dropped flares in a show of force.

The Taliban put up such fierce resistance that Marines said they suspected the militants knew the assault was coming.

Other Marines met heavy resistance as they fought to seize control of the mountains surrounding Dahaneh in the southern province of Helmand. Another convoy of Marines rolled into the town despite roadside bomb attacks

It was the first time NATO troops had entered

Dahaneh, which has been under Taliban control

U.S., NATO and Afghan troops are working to protect voting sites around the country so Afghans can take part in the country's secondever direct presidential election on Aug. 20. Taliban militants have vowed to disrupt the elections, and attacks are on the rise.

At the Pentagon, spokesman Bryan Whitman said the operation was "going as planned."

"They are engaged in a fight. They are meeting some resistance," he said. He would not say how long the current offensive will last.

Marines said they killed between seven and 10 militants in Wednesday's push and seized about 66 pounds of opium, which the militants use to finance their insurgency. Troops hope to restore control of the town so that residents can vote in the election.

The new offensive, named "Eastern Resolve 2," is designed to break the monthslong stalemate in this southern valley where the Taliban are solidly entrenched. By occupying Dahaneh, the Marines hope to isolate insurgents in woods and mountains, away from civilian centers.

"I think this has the potential to be a watershed," said Capt. Zachary Martin, commander of Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, who led the assault.

Jam-packed crowds press **Grassley on health care**



Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, speaks to a large crowd during a town meeting on health care reform Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009 in Adel, Iowa.

Associated Press

MIKE GLOVER

Associated Press Writer

PANORA, Iowa (AP) — Sen. Charles Grassley, a Republican who is a key bargainer on health care reform, played to packed crowds in his home state of Iowa who left little doubt that they were not happy with what's on the table.

Continued on Page B4

Govt. denies reports bomber to be freed



In this undated photo released by the British Crown Office, showing Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi, a Libyan intelligence officer, who was convicted in a Scottish court on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2001, of murder in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, and sentenced him to life in prison.

Associated Press

BEN McCONVILLE **Associated Press Writer** EDINBURGH, Scotland Continued on Page B6 | (AP) — Sky News and

BBC television reported Wednesday that Lockerbie bomber Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi was to be freed from his Scottish prison on compassionate grounds, but the minister in charge of deciding al-Megrahi's fate denied that any such decision had been made.

Neither news network cited a source for its report. Scottish Justice Minister Kenny MacAskill, who was due to decide whether to release al-Megrahi, told a local television station he had yet to make up his mind. A call and an e-mail sent to al-Megrahi's Scottish lawyer were not immediately returned late Wednesday

"The decision will be made next week," MacAskill told Scottish Television Wednesday.

Two spokeswomen Scotland's devolved government dismissed the BBC and Sky reports as speculation.

Thursday, August 13, 2009 UP FRONT

Aruba TODAY

New justice Sotomayor celebrated at White Ho



JENNIFER LOVEN **AP White House** Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) -President Barack Obama threw a big White House party Wednesday to celebrate Sonia Sotomayor as the U.S. Supreme Court's first Latino justice — and to publicly savor the victory sure to earn him points with politically potent Hispanics. The event televised remarks from Obama

and Sotomayor followed by a private reception for a few hundred supporters — was packed with Sotomayor's family and friends, lawmakers, issue advocates, Hispanic community leaders and two of her fellow Supreme Court justices. The jubilance of those who helped shepherd her confirmation through the Senate gave the event a peprally feel amid the stately grandeur of the East Room.

Court is a separate branch of government that frequently rules on cases critical to the administration in power. Still, because presidents make the nominations — and because Supreme Court confirmations have become taxing, politically hard-fought affairs — it is common for the White House to stage celebrations once the nominees are confirmed.

Typically, though not always, justices have two swearingin ceremonies, an intimate judicial oath at the Supreme Court followed by a pompfilled White House event in which the new justice takes the constitutional oath administered to all federal employees. This was true for Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Samuel Alito, Stephen Breyer, Clarence Thomas and Ruth Bader Ginsberg. During Wednesday's celebration, both Obama and Sotomayor heavily emphasized the history being

The nine-member Supreme made now that she has joined the court, its first Hispanic and just the third woman in its 220-year history. But she will not affect the court's political balance, which has tended toward conservative rulings in recent years. Justices often serve for life or until they decide to retire.

> The lines from both about Sotomayor's unlikely rise, from a poor and difficult childhood in public housing projects in New York to an education at elite universities and distinguished legal career, were huge crowd-pleasers. Nearly every time either mentioned the inspirational qualities of Sotomayor's nomination by Obama in May and confirmation by the Senate last Thursday, people clapped, cheered and jumped to their feet. Obama's words that Sotomayor's move brings the nation "another step to the more perfect union that we all seek" were welcome in the room. They were also

a reminder to Latino voters around the nation that Obama, the country's first black president, is the one who at last put one of their own in one of America's most prestigious jobs. "While this is Justice Sotomayor's achievement, the result of her ability and determination, this moment is not just about her. It's about every child who will grow up thinking to him or herself, 'If Sonia Sotomayor can make it, then maybe I can, too,"" Obama said. "This is a great day for America."

Hispanics are heavily courted by both political parties. Despite recent gains by Republicans among Latino voters, polls show they went heavily for Obama over Republican John McCain in the last election. Sotomayor was confirmed by a 68-31 Senate vote, with Democrats warning Republicans voting against her that they risked a backlash from Hispanic voters.



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Plan for troops on US border stalls over money

LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A government plan to use National Guard troops to help stem Mexican drug violence along the southern U.S. border is stymied by disagreements over who will pay for the soldiers and how they would be used.

Ordered by President Barack Obama in June to help secure the border with Mexico, the Pentagon and the Homeland Security Department drafted a \$225 million plan to deploy temporarily 1,500 Guard troops to supplement 17,200 Border Patrol agents already there.

National Guard units are military forces in waiting made up of civilians who train on weekends and during the summer. They can and have been mobilized for battlefield duties in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The two agencies are wrangling over how to structure the deployment, but the primary sticking point is the money, according to senior officials administration who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The funding stalemate lingers even after Obama renewed his commitment to Mexican officials on Monday to reinforce the border and to help Mexico battle the drug cartels. Fierce battles between Mexican law enforcement and the cartels have left as many as 11,000 people dead and fueled concerns about violence spilling into the U.S.

"The United States," Obama said during a news conference in Mexico on Monday, "will also meet its responsibilities by continuing our efforts to reduce the demand for drugs and continuing to strengthening the security

of our shared border
— not only to protect the
American people, but to
stem the illegal southbound
flow of American guns and
cash that helps fuel this
extraordinary violence."

Meanwhile, state leaders are getting impatient.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry is still waiting for a response to his request for 1,000 more troops, his spokeswoman Katherine Cesinger said Tuesday.

"For too long the border has gone without the adequate resources to secure it," Cesinger said. "It's a federal responsibility but a Texas problem."

White House spokesman Nick Shapiro cautioned that Obama has not made any decision yet on the issue. "The president is firmly committed to ensuring that our borders are secure and that we are doing all that we can to cut off the flow of drugs, illegal weapons and bulk cash in both directions," he said.

Early drafts of the Pentagon's plan revealed Defense would seek reimbursement for its costs of the program, which is slated to last just one year, giving the Border Patrol time to build up its force of agents.

The Homeland Security



Department, which expects to get roughly \$44 billion in its overall 2010 budget compared to the Pentagon's \$636 billion, is also reluctant to bear the costs of the proposed program.

Military officials have also balked at having a highly visible uniformed presence at border crossings.

One administration official said an initial Pentagon draft was nixed by Defense Secretary Robert Gates because it suggested that Guard troops could be used to help screen commercial vehicles at the border.

Defense leaders have been insistent that the U.S. avoid any appearance of militarizing the border, and

they are opposed to using the soldiers at border entry points to openly inspect vehicles.

Defense officials have been uneasy about the Guard plan from the onset, insisting that the effort be temporary and not tied to any existing program that could end up being extended or made permanent.

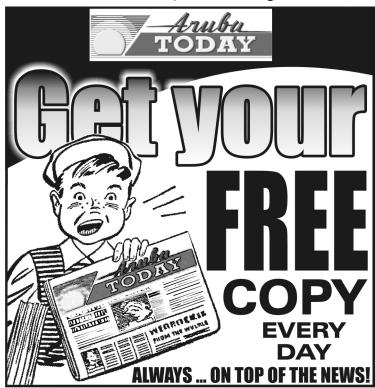
Adding to those concerns is the fact that while the program would be federally funded, the Guard members would be under the control of the border states' governors.

At the same time, Pentagon officials have grumbled that the latest demands come as the U.S. is still fighting

two wars, including an escalation of fighting in Afghanistan, and the Guard units are still needed to take on some of the battlefield duties

A new draft that drops those border inspections from the list of Guard missions was prepared, and one senior administration official said that Gates and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano agreed on that move in a conversation last week.

One official said a resolution to the matter is still some weeks away. Other debates have involved where the soldiers would be stationed and what tasks they would perform.









HEALTH CARE Continued from Page B1

The questions were tough but respectful, and there was little of the shouting that has dominated similar meetings in other parts of the country.

"It seems to me that people are expressing, not just on health care, but people are just very scared about the direction the country is taking," said Grassley, who emphasized that he hasn't signed off on anything.

Grassley is the ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee and he's been deep in bargaining seeking a compromise health care plan that could get some Republican votes. He made it clear there are portions of the current measure he can't swallow.

The boisterous forums held by many federal lawmakers have emphasized the challenge for President Barack Obama's administration as it tries to win over skeptical voters to an expensive plan to overhaul the nation's health care system.

Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter and Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill were among those who hosted raucous town halls on Tuesday. Speaking Wednesday in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Specter said that the protesters are "not necessarily representative of America" but should be heard.

"There's more anger out there now than I have ever seen before," the Democrat said. "And I think the anger is caused by so many people having lost their jobs and (being) worried about losing their health insurance."

In North Dakota, a raucous crowd packed a fire hall in Casselton on Wednesday to talk to Democratic Sen. Byron Dorgan, with few signs of support for the reform plans. One woman was booed when she said an overhaul is necessary.

Other meetings were less combative. In Kansas, Republican Rep. Lynn Jenkins faced a friendly crowd of more than 200 people, drawing applause as she listed flaws she sees in the legislation before Congress.

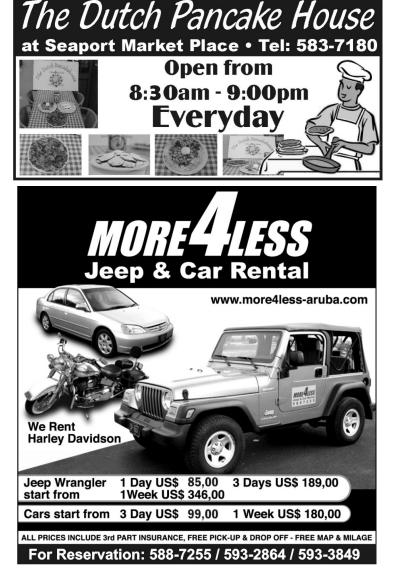
Several audience members

at Topeka's Holiday Inn Holidome said they believe Jenkins is listening to them — when the Democrats controlling Congress are not.

"I think that's where the yelling comes in," said Jerry Aller, a 55-year-old farmer and postal worker who drove 70 miles from his hometown of Hiawatha. In Iowa, nearly 500 people iammed a sweltering community center meeting room to see Grassley, with virtually all describing health reform as government takeover of the nation's health care system that's a prescription for disaster.

Charlotte Fett manages a local clinic, and she said doctors are already forced to fight their way through a blizzard of bureaucracy. "I'm concerned about the layers of regulation that health care has now," she said. "This will make it worse I think and I've been in health care for 40 years." "I don't want the government or a bureaucrat

working for the government to come between you and your doctor," Grassley. "I think the stakes are very, very high." Grassley has opposed Obama's call for creation of a public option that the president says would drive up competition and force private insurers too reduce their rates. Grassley says only people in the country legally should be covered by a government-funded health care program, and opposes any plan that "determines when you're going to pull the plug on grandma." None of the bills in Congress would provide health insurance illegal immigrants, but it didn't keep people from expressing concern about it. Obama has declared that the provision causing the uproar over end-of-life care only authorizes Medicare to pay doctors for counseling about end-of-life care. He says it would not "basically pull the plug on grandma because we decided that it's too expensive to let her live anymore." National Republicans have seen an opportunity in the health care debate to target vulnerable Democrats. The National Republican Campaign Committee plans to run television and radio advertisements throughout August targeting at least seven members of Congress in competitive races.

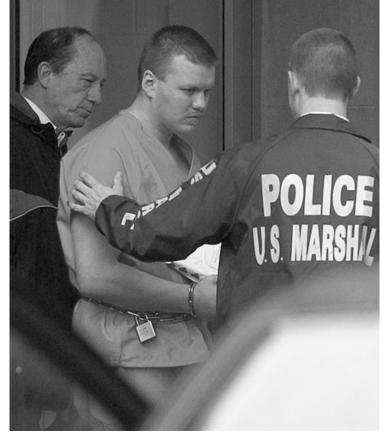






U.S. REGIONAL B5 Thursday, August 13, 2009

AP Exclusive: Killer says he wants to make amends



E - In a Tuesday, April 12, 2005 file photo, Chadrick Fulks is escorted by U.S. Marshals out of the federal courthouse in Huntington, W.Va., following his arraignment on charges if carjacking resulting in the death of Marshall University student Samantha Burns, felon in possession of a firearm, possession of stolen firearms and interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle. Convicted killer Chadrick Fulks insists he wants to help a slain West Virginia college student's family find solace by leading investigators to her body.

Associated Press

By MEG KINNARD Associated Press Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Death row inmate Chadrick Fulks insists he wants to help a slain West Virginia college student's family find solace by leading investigators to her body.

It wouldn't be the first time he's made that claim. State and federal authorities spent six years on wild goose chases prompted by tips from Fulks before one of his clues actually led searchers to another victim of his 2,300-mile crime spree, which left two women dead and several people injured in 2002.

"I will fight until my last breath to make sure that Samantha is recovered as well," Fulks, 32, wrote in a recent letter to The Associated Press from the federal death row in Terre Haute, Ind.

But now, the same volunteer who successfully unearthed one of Fulks' victims says she's not so sure the condemned man really wants anyone to find the other, 19-year-old Marshall University student Samantha Burns.

The volunteer, Monica Caison, is the founder of Community United Effort - Center for Missing Persons. She led the team that found the remains of Alice Donovan, a 44-year-old South Carolina woman, earlier this year, but is frustrated by the search for Burns.

"I've found people missing for 15 years or more, more easily than this," said Caison, whose recent searches of rural, wooded parts of West Virginia based on tips from Fulks have turned up nothing. "I try not to let my frustration show. ... Everybody expects to get out there and find her and have the same success that we had with Alice."

After Fulks sent her a map and photos earlier this year, claiming they were Donovan's final resting place, Caison drove directly from Wilmington, N.C., to South Carolina, where in January she found bones in thick brush near the North Carolina line. Last month, DNA tests confirmed the remains belonged to Donovan, information that left Fulks feeling somewhat vindicated.

"I'm thankful that her family can now have a proper burial for her," Fulks wrote, "and I can only pray that in some way this will help them to begin to heal."

That chance came only after

years of fruitless searching. Right after Fulks was arrested inNovember2002, information he gave agents prompted them to spend their Thanksgiving looking through another patch of woods, but they found nothing. In the six years after that, Fulks repeatedly urged state and federal authorities to search several different areas. It has never been clear if he was intentionally misleading them or simply forgot where the bodies had been discarded.

Donovan's daughters are planning to bury their mother Nov. 14, the seventh anniversary of her death. Fulks, who says his own brother recently committed suicide in day Donovan's remains were identified, wrote to the AP that he now understands the anguish felt by both victims' families.

"Seeing his pain made me constantly think about Alice and Samanthas familys pain and it has drove me to not give up until they both were found," he wrote.

Earlier this year, Fulks wrote to Caison again, sending a map and photos of the rural area where he says Burns' body was dumped. He and co-defendant Brandon Basham pleaded guilty to killing her during their spree, which authorities said also included carjacking

jail and was buried the same a Kentucky man and leaving him for dead, shooting a South Carolina man who refused to give them his vehicle, and attacking police officers in Kentucky and Ohio. The spree started when they broke out of a Kentucky jail.

> Both men are on federal death row in Terre Haute, Ind. Fulks has consistently blamed Basham for the women's deaths but insists he also knows where the bodies are.

> In March, Caison led a group through a wooded area in southwestern West Virginia at Fulks' direction, her spirits renewed by the success in identifying Donovan's remains.



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Aruba

Ministry of Health

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3. Clean your hands

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Thursday, August 13, 2009 WORLD NEWS



Afghan National Army soldiers look through a detainee's cell phone during a joint operation with U.S. Marines to take control of the village of Dahaneh from the Taliban, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009, in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Associated Press

TALIBAN TOWN Continued from Page B1

The goal is to cut off the Taliban from a major rear base, and reclaim the area's market district. It is hoped this would have a ripple effect through nearby villages, making civilians more willing

to cooperate with NATO forces. The Taliban levy taxes and maintain checkpoints in Dahaneh, which serves as a main trading route through northern Helmand, which produces 60 percent of the world's opium.

"In the long term, it could

have tremendous effects for the entire province," said Martin, whose company is based in Naw Zad, five miles (10 kilometers) to the north.

A combined force of approximately 400 U.S. forces and about 100 Afghan army soldiers took part in the attack, which included helicopters, snipers, and female Marines brought in to interact with Afghan women during the compound-by-compound search conducted by Afghan forces who accompanied the Americans.

The Marines arrived in helicopters under cover of darkness, but at morning light, militants unleashed their weapons.

Marines cried out "Incoming!" as the whistles of Taliban rockets approached. A heavy rocket targeted a Marine outpost, but flew over the small base, while a mortar round landed just 20 yards (meters) from a Humvee on the town's outskirts.

and I'd be dead," said Corp. Joshua Jackson, 23, from Copley, Ohio, after one round landed nearby.

Progress into the town was slowed by a heavy machine gun the Taliban had in one of the streets. Militants also brought in a truck to fire heavy missiles.

Marines said the Taliban's reputation for firing poorly aimed shots and fleeing had not proved true here.

"This is a Taliban home down here, so for once they're not running," said Lance Corp. Garett Davidson, 24, of West Desmorins, Iowa.

Fighting was made harder for the Marines by the fact insurgents were shooting from house rooftops and courtyards, potentially putting civilians in danger. But civilians perhaps 100 — were seen fleeing on foot in the early morning, leaving the Marines confident that those left in the town were militants.

"Just a few meters further Martin said the Marines would strictly limit the type of weapons they used and would stick to a "proportional response" when under fire to limit civilian casualties.

rubu TODA

After militants fired volleys of rockets from a mud-wall compound, the Marines called in a missile strike, and Capt. Zachary Martin said seven to 10 militants inside were killed. No civilians were inside, he said.

"We were tracking these individuals, they were there ... and then boom, and they weren't there," Martin said.

Martin confirmed suspicions among the Marines that the fierce resistance indicated that the Taliban had been tipped off about the operation beforehand. "I'm pretty sure they knew of it in advance," he said.

Once the second largest-town in Helmand, Naw Zad has been almost emptied of its 30,000 inhabitants after three years of near-constant fighting.





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SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF **AUGUST 13 - AUGUST 19**

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n woman barred from Paris pool for 'burquini'

MARIA DANILOVA **Associated Press Writer**

PARIS (AP) — A Muslim woman who tried to go swimming in a head-totoe swimsuit dubbed a "burquini" has been banned from her local pool in the latest tussle between religious practices and secular authority in France. Officials on Wednesday insisted they banned the woman's use of the Islamfriendly suit because of France's unusually strict hygiene standards in pools — not because of official hostility to wearing overtly Muslim garb.

Under the policy, swimmers are prevented from wearing any street-compatible or baggy clothing, such as Bermuda shorts, in favor of figure-hugging suits.

Nonetheless the woman, a 35-year-old convert to Islam identified only as complained of Carole, religious discrimination after trying to go swimming in a "burquini," a a fullbody swimsuit, in the Paris suburb of Emerainville.

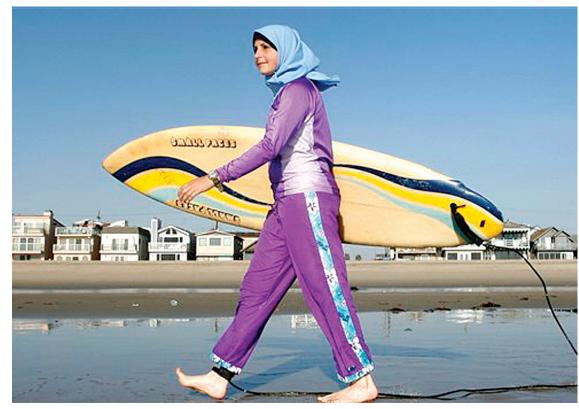
She was quoted as telling the

that she had bought the burquini after deciding "it would allow me the pleasure of bathing without showing too much of myself, as Islam recommends."

"For me this is nothing but segregation," she added.

Daniel Guillaume, regional official in charge of swimming pools, said the refusal had nothing to do with religion and everything to do with public health standards. He swimmers throughout France must wear special clothes to the pool, whereas a "burquini" could be worn all day long. "These clothes are used in public, so they can contain molecules, viruses, et cetera, which will go in the water and could be transmitted to other bathers," Guillaume said in a telephone interview.

"We reminded this woman that one should not bathe all dressed, just as we would tell someone who is a nudist not to bathe all naked." he said. Guillaume said France's public health



In this Feb.15, 2007 file photo, Sama Wareh walks along the sand dressed in swimwear designed for Muslim women Newport Beach, Calif. A French Muslim was denied last Aug.1, 2009 entry to a swimming pool for wearing an Islamic-style full-body swimsuit. Officials say the head-to-toe "burquini" is unhygienic and harmful to other bathers, but the woman complains of religious discrimination. The incident adds to controversy over wearing explicitly religious symbols in public places in this secular country.

Associated Press Carole told the daily Le

full-body coverings worn by Muslim fundamentalists Parisien she would protest are in official disfavor.

> French lawmakers recently proposed a ban on the burga and other voluminous Muslim attire. President Nicolas Sarkozy backs the move, saying such clothing makes women prisoners.

specific briefs for men and caps to cover their hair. Bathers also must shower before entering the water. Guillaume said Carole had tried to file a complaint at a

women and tight, swim-

with the help of antidiscrimination groups. The Associated Press could not reach the woman for

comment Wednesday. The issue of religious attire is a hot topic in France, where

standards require all poollocal police station, but her request was turned down as goers to don appropriate daily Le Parisien newspaper groundless. head-to-toe burgas or other attire — swimsuits for

Thursday, August 13, 2009 WORLD NEWS

Arubu TODAY

Ship disappears after sail through English Cha



In this Dec. 29, 2008 photo the cargo ship the Arctic Sea is seen in Kotka, Finland. The Arctic Sea, a Maltese-flagged cargo ship, was supposed to make port in Algeria with its cargo of timber on August 4. More than a week later, there's no sign of the ship or its Russian crew.

Associated Press

JENNIFER QUINN **Associated Press Writer**

LONDON (AP) — First the ship reported it had been attacked in waters off Sweden. Then it sailed with no apparent problems through one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. And then it disappeared.

The Arctic Sea, a Malteseflagged cargo ship, was supposed to make port in Algeria with its cargo of timber on Aug. 4. More than a week later, there's no sign of the ship or its Russian crew.

Piracy has exploded off the coast of lawless Somalia but could this be an almost unheard of case of sea banditry in European waters?

"If this is a criminal act, it appears to be following a new business model," Marine intelligence expert Graeme Gibbon-Brooks told Sky News on Wednesday.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev ordered country's defense minister on Wednesday to take "all necessary measures" to find

the missing cargo ship and, if necessary, to free its crew, the Kremlin said. Wives and other relatives of the crew members issued an appeal to the Russian government to carry out a full-scale rescue mission, using all of Russia's special services.

The mystery began on July 24, when the 15 crew members of the Arctic Sea said they were tied up and beaten by a group of up to 10 men who boarded the ship off the Swedish island of Oland. The masked men identified themselves as police officers — but Swedish police said they hadn't been searching ships in that area.

Swedish police investigator Ingemar Isaksson said the crew then claimed that the men left the ship 12 hours later in a high-speed inflatable boat. "We were very puzzled when we first heard about this," Isaksson said then. "I have never heard of anything like this in Swedish waters." On July 28, the Arctic Sea made contact with British maritime authorities as it passed through the busy English Channel. The ship

made a routine, mandatory report — saying who they were, where they were from, where they were going and what their cargo was. It appeared routine, said Mark Clark of Britain's Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

He said the agency is "extremely curious" about what happened to the ship.

"It's bizarre," he said. "There is no coastguard I know who can remember anything like this happening."

Where the ship was next spotted is uncertain. Russian media reports say the last contact was on July 30 when the ship was in the Bay of Biscay, and that it was later spotted by a Portuguese patrol plane, but there was no contact.

Portuguese Navy spokesman Commander Joao Barbosa said "we can guarantee that the ship is not in Portuguese waters nor did it ever pass through Portuguese waters."

The cargo was shipped by Finnish wood supplier Rets Timber, and is worth 1.3 the company said.

"We have no idea where the ship is," company managing director Kari Naumanen told the AP in Helsinki.

Experts are very concerned about the vessel and crew, but at the same time are wary of attributing the disappearance to armed bandits.

"There have been no attacks in European waters," said Pottengal Mukundan, director of the Londonbased International Maritime Bureau. "It's not the kind of area where pirates would find it easy to operate."

Nick Davis, the chief executive

million euros (\$1.84 million), of the Merchant Maritime Warfare Centre, told the BBC that if anything had happened to the ship, cargo would have been found.

> "I strongly suspect that this is probably a commercial dispute with its owner and a third party and they've decided to take matters into their own hands," he said Wednesday.

> Pirate attacks off Somalia's lawless coast are a far more familiar occurrence. Pirates have launched more than 100 attacks this year in the Gulf of Aden, one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, and are currently holding about a dozen vessels.



Greek financial crime squad officers stand beside seized packages of cocaine, in Athens, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009. Authorities say they have seized nearly half a ton of cocaine at the capital's main port of Piraeus and arrested five suspected members of an international drug smuggling ring. The seizure, one of the largest involving cocaine in Greece, followed a tip-off from U.S. authorities.

Associated Press

Nearly half a ton of cocaine seized in Greece

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Authorities seized nearly half a ton of cocaine and arrested five suspected members of an international drug smuggling ring, Greece's Finance Ministry said Wednesday.

The ministry said the 1,000 pounds of cocaine originated from landlocked Bolivia and was smuggled by freighter to Greece's main port of Piraeus, near Athens.

Officials at the Finance Ministry's fraud agency could not be reached for comment to say where the freighter had sailed

It was one of the largest quantities of the drug ever seized in Greece.

The cocaine was located last month, following a tip-off from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, in a ship's container filled with scrap aluminum, a ministry statement said Wednesday.

Following a long surveillance operation, authorities early Tuesday arrested four Greeks and a Bulgarian man in Athens and Greece's second-largest city of Thessaloniki.

The drugs were believed to have been headed for Bulgaria. Finance Minister Yiannis Papathanasiou described the operation as a "major success" in fighting drug traffickers



Secretary Clinton presses Nigeria on corruption, oil

Associated Press Writer

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday urged oilrich Nigeria to embrace broad political reform and ease tensions that have led to sectarian violence and disrupted energy production in the Niger Delta.

On the fifth stop during a seven-nation tour of Africa, Clinton said that action on those fronts was needed to protect the country's status as the continent's largest oil producer and largest recipient of direct U.S. investment.

"It is critical for the people Nigeria, first and foremost, but indeed for the United States that Nigeria succeeds in fulfilling its promise," Clinton told a news conference in the Nigerian capital of Abuja after meeting Nigerian Foreign Minister Ojo Maduekwe.

"We strongly support and encourage the government Nigeria's efforts to of increase transparency, reduce corruption (and) provide support democratic processes in preparation for the 2011 elections," she said.

U.S. officials regard Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, as a bellwether for continent's success and have expressed deep concern about the coupprone country's political situation, especially after 2007 elections that were marred by fraud.

Maduekwe said there was "national consensus issues of enhanced on democracy, deep commitment to rule of law and electoral reforms" and pledged that President Yar'Adua's Umaru government would deliver on reform.

Nigeria is the fifth-largest supplier of oil to the United States and U.S. officials are also troubled by unrest and kidnappings in the Niger Delta, where indigenous groups have complained vehemently about exploitation of oil reserves by foreign petroleum companies.

Violence in the region has led to cuts in production that in June led to Angola surpassing Nigeria monthly oil production.

To deal with the situation, Yar'Adua has offered militants in the Niger Delta amnesty if they turn in their arms, register and take part in reintegration programs.

Maduekwe said the offer, which took effect earlier this month, was the result of a realization that a new method had to be used to deal with the unrest, which the government had previously tried to quell with military force.

"We clearly understood the need to be bold and imaginative in dealing with that," he said. "Old methods were not going to be good enough."

Maduekwesaidtheweek-old amnesty offer had already succeeded in improving oil production levels. "Even the mere perception that peace is coming back, amnesty is working, the oil levels are gradually coming up again."

Clinton said the amnesty approach was "very promising" and said Washington would look at ways it might be able to assist. She added that she wanted to help ensure that "money from the earth and its riches should be spent on the people" of Nigeria and other African nations.

In addition to the Niger Delta unrest, U.S. officials are concerned by a recent explosion of sectarian violence sparked by the killing of the head of the militant Islamist Boko Haram sect that left more



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, left, and Nigerian President Umaru Yar'Adua walk as Clinton arrives at the state house in Abuja, Nigeria Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009. Clinton, on the fifth stop of a seven-nation tour of Africa, urged oil-rich Nigeria to embrace broad political reform and ease tensions that have led to sectarian violence and disrupted energy production in the Niger

Associated Press

than 700 people dead in the mainly Muslim north.

The emergence of Boko Haram which translated as "Western education is sacrilege" and seeks the imposition of strict Islamic Shariah law in secular Nigeria — has led to fears of the spread of Islamist extremism in the country.

Clinton declined to offer an opinion on the government's actions during the violence that began after sect members attacked a police station and the death in apparent custody of the group's leader, but said there was "no doubt" that Islamist extremists wanted to expand their influence in Africa.

Maduekwe said Nigerians general were susceptible to extremist ideology and attributed



the "spasm of violence" to misguided youths with political aims hiding behind religion.

Clinton has visited so far

on a seven-nation tour of Africa aimed at promoting development and good governance. She will travel Nigeria is the fifth country next to Liberia and Cape Verde.□



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laundry area, covered patio, walk in closet in the master bed room. The house is fully fenced and has a huge back yard that you can build a nice size swimming pool.

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Thursday, August 13, 2009 SPORTS

Aruba_TODAY

SPURIS ENDING

The buzz word at Hazeltine is length

DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

CHASKA, Minnesota (AP) — Paul Azinger pulled the driver from his bag because there really is no other option at Hazeltine. The sign post on the opening hole has two words and two sets of numbers that serve as a not-so-subtle welcome to the U.S. PGA Championship.

490 yards. Par 4.

If that's not enough, the wind was in his face.

A stream of fans was crossing the fairway about 200 yards off the tee, and as a marshal frantically waved his arms to stop the traffic, Azinger told him not to worry. He thought even he could keep the ball in the air that long, and he then ripped a shot that traveled well over their heads.

No need to put the cover back on the driver or any of the fairway metals for most players in the U.S. PGA Championship.

The tournament starts on Thursday, already in the record books without a single shot having been hit that counts on the card. Hazeltine National measures an official 7,674



yards, making it the longest course in major championship history. The previous record was 7,643 yards last year at Torrey Pines for the U.S. Open. Before that, the record belonged to Medinah No. 3, which was 7,561 yards for the 2006 U.S. PGA Championship. And before that, it was 7,514 yards at Whistling Straits for the '04 U.S. PGA.

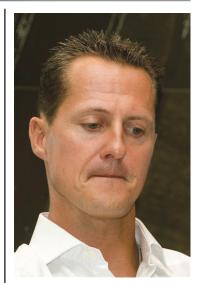
You get the picture.

"Looking forward to playing a major one day that does not promote itself as the longest ever," Geoff Ogilvy said on Twitter.

The U.S. PGA Championship bills itself as "Glory's Last Shot" because it is the final chance of the year to win a major. That takes on particular significance for Tiger Woods, whose five victories this year do not include the kind he covets the most.

Woods is trying to match Jack Nicklaus and Walter Hagen with his fifth U.S. PGA Championship victory, and continue toward a more obscure record. Hagen won a major six years in a row; Woods is at four.

Continued on Page B12



Former Formula One driver German Michael Schumacher looks pensive as he answers journalists's questions during a press conference in Geneva, Switzerland, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009. Michael Schumacher said deciding to cancel his much-anticipated **Formula** One comeback was a "really sad moment." He had wanted to help the Ferrari team by replacing its injured driver Felipe Massa, but was unable to do so because of lingering injuries from a motorcycle crash six months ago. Schumacher said Wednesday that test-driving an F1 car at the Mugello track in Italy last week had shown he wasn't up to a comeback. Schumacher's doctor, Johannes Peil, said the German's most serious injury was at the base of his skull but was otherwise fit.

Associated Press



Mexico's Israel Castro, top, celebrates with teammates after scoring during a South Africa 2010 World Cup qualifier match against U.S. at the Aztec stadium in Mexico City Wednesday Aug 12, 2009.

Associated Press

Mexico beats U.S. 2-1 in qualifier

STEPHEN WADE

AP Sports Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Substitute Miguel Sabah scored in the 82nd minute for Mexico to beat the United States 2-1 in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday. Mexico's third win in six matches in CONCACAF qualifying strengthened its chances of reaching next year's World Cup in South Africa.

Three minutes after being sent in, Sabah was alone in front of the net when he took a feed from Efrain Juarez and beat goalkeeper Tim Howard.

Mexico has won 23 of its 24 home matches against the U.S.

The Americans nearly silenced the piercing drone of horns, drums and high-pitched screams at Estadio Azteca thanks to a brilliant setup by Landon Donovan for Charlie Davies in the 9th minute. Donovan turned near midfield and

threaded a pass through three Mexicans on the left side to Davies, who timed a perfect run and scored just inside the far post.

It was the first time the Americans have led at Azteca, which opened 43 years ago.

The U.S. edge lasted only 10 minutes. Cuauhtemoc Blanco found Israel Castro, who equalized on a wicked shot off the underside of the crossbar and just over a leaping Howard.

The goal turned up the volume again for 105,000 fans in sold-out Azteca. where the crowd understood how damaging a home loss would be, particularly after Mexico won the Gold Cup last month using many of the same players. The U.S., however, changed almost the entire lineup that was routed 5-0 in that final.

In the 74th, tempers flared. With Davies down on the field — apparently with cramps — several Mexico players tried to pull him off the ground.

AL Roundup

Matsui, Posada power **Yankees past Blue Jays**

NEW YORK (AP) — Hideki Matsui and Jorge Posada hit consecutive homers leading off the eighth inning for the New York Yankees to beat the Toronto Blue Jays 7-5 and their eighth win in nine games on Tuesday.

Matsui hit Jesse Carlson (1-5) deep to right to tie it at 4 and Posada followed with an opposite-field drive that just got over the glove of leaping right fielder Joe Inglett and survived a video review. Melky Cabrera and Johnny Damon added RBI singles off Josh Roenicke to make it 7-4. New York has hit consecutive homers in three straight games for the first time since 1983 and has gone back-to-back 13 times this season.

Indians 5, Rangers 0

At Cleveland, Aaron Laffey pitched effectively into the seventh inning to remain undefeated at home for Cleveland. Laffey allowed six hits and three walks in 6 2-3 innings. He is 4-0 with a 1.59 ERA in five home starts.

Dustin Nippert (3-1) struck out a career-high 10 over six innings for Texas but Cleveland's first five batters in the third inning scored.

Grady Sizemore and Asdrubal Cabrera singled and Choo Shin-soo was hit by a pitch. Jhonny Peralta drew a basesloaded walk to make it 1-0, Travis Hafner had an RBI single, Luis Valbuena a tworun double and Trevor Crowe a sacrifice fly for a 5-0 lead.

Orioles 3, Athletics 2

Baltimore, David Hernandez outpitched Trevor Cahill in a duel between rookies as Baltimore ended a nine-game losing streak against Oakland since July

Brian Roberts had three hits, an RBI and two stolen bases for the Orioles, who had been outscored 30-6 in their previous four games against Oakland this season.

Hernandez (4-4) gave up solo homers to Scott Hairston and Adam Kennedy.

Cahill (6-12) gave up three runs and eight hits in seven innings. His 12th defeat of the season left him tied for most in the American League.

Red Sox 7, Tigers 5

At Boston, Mike Lowell, who entered the game after Kevin Youkilis was ejected for charging the mound and inciting a bench-clearing scuffle, hit two home runs to lead Boston past Detroit.

Lowell hit a solo homer in the third to break a 3-3 tie, then added a two-run shot in the fifth to make it 6-3. He scored on Jason Bay's threerun homer after entering the game in the second as a pinchrunner when Detroit starter Rick Porcello was ejected for hitting Youkilis and sparking the melee.

Junichi Tazawa (1-1) allowed

- while walking two and striking out six in five innings in his first major-league start. Chris Lambert (0-1) allowed five runs, five hits and four walks in five innings in relief of Porcello, who hit Youkilis in apparent retaliation for Tazawa's plunking of Miguel

Curtis Granderson hit a two-run homer off Jonathan Papelbon with two outs in the ninth to make it 7-5.

Royals 14, Twins 6

At Minneapolis, Miguel Olivo homered and drove in three runs as Kansas City had its highest run total of the season in a win over Minnesotsa.

Olivo and David DeJesus both had three hits for the Royals. Joe Mauer had three hits and Orlando Cabrera extended his career-best hitting streak to 20

games for Minnesota, which innings, his shortest outing of

Making his second start since being recalled from Triplefive hits in five innings.

SPORTS B11
Thursday, August 13, 2009

Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston takes the ball from reliever Jesse Carlson, as catcher Rod Barajas and shortstop Marco Scutaro look on in the eighth inning of the Blue Jays 7-5 loss to the New York Yankees in their baseball game at Yankee Stadium Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2009 in New York. Carlson gave up back-to-back home runs to Hideki Matsui and Jorge Posada.

has lost five of six and eight of 10.

A Omaha, Kyle Davies (4-8) allowed one earned run and

Minnesota's Nick Blackburn (8-7) allowed six runs — four earned — and six hits in 1 2-3

the season.

In other AL games it was, Baltimore 3, Oakland 2; Cleveland 5, Texas 0; N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 5; Boston 7, Detroit 5; Kansas City 14, Minnesota 6; L.A. Angels 6, Tampa Bay 0; and Chicago White Sox 3, Seattle 1.

NL Roundup

Ramirez HR helps Dodgers over Giants



Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Ramirez, right, celebrates his tworun home run with teammates Russell Martin (55) and Andre Ethier (16) at home plate during the second inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Monday, July 20, 2009, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Manny Ramirez hit a towering two-run homer and doubled in a run as the Los Angeles Dodgers routed their rival San Francisco Giants 9-1 in the National League on Tuesday.

Andre Ethier doubled twice and drove in two runs for the NLleading Dodgers, who increased their West division lead over the Giants to 7-1/2 games.

Ramirez's homer in the seventh was his seventh since returning from a 50-game doping suspension.

Phillies 4, Cubs 3, 12 innings

In Chicago, Ben Francisco led off the 12th inning with a home run to give Philadelphia a remarkable win over Chicago despite getting only three hits all game.

The Phillies remained 3-1/2 games ahead of Florida atop the NL East. The Cubs have lost five of six and remain three games off the pace in the NL Central.

Francisco, acquired from Cleveland two weeks ago, lined a 1-1 pitch into the basket that hangs over the left-field fence. Francisco is batting .345 with six homers and 12 RBIs in his past 16 games.

Marlins 9, Astros 8, 11 innings

In Miami, Dan Uggla hit a game-ending RBI single with the two outs and the bases loaded in the 11th inning, as Florida edged Houston and won its fifth straight.

Successive walks to open the 12th were followed by consecutive strikeouts. A third walk loaded the bases, then Uggla lined a single through the left side of the infield.

The Marlins had come back from a five-run deficit to take the lead before the Astros tied it in the ninth.

Reds 5, Cardinals 4

In St. Louis, journeyman fill-in pitcher Justin Lehr worked into the seventh inning to steer Cincinnatti past St. Louis.

Lehr, coming off a shutout of the Cubs in his second career start, allowed only one run.

The Cardinals four-game winning streak was ended when, with a runner on second and two outs, Matt Holliday struck out on a called third strike.

In other NL games it was, Florida 9, Houston 8, 11 innings; Atlanta 8, Washington 1; Philadelphia 4, Chicago Cubs 3, 12 innings; San Diego 13, Milwaukee 6; Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 4; Pittsburgh 7, Colorado 3; Arizona 6, N.Y. Mets 2; and L.A. Dodgers 9, San Francisco 1.

Thursday, August 13, 2009 SPOR



HAZELTINE Continued from Page B10

The world No. 1 came close seven years ago at Hazeltine, closing with four straight birdies to finish one shot behind Rich Beem. The course was a mere 7,360 yards for that 2002 U.S. PGA Championship. Woods couldn't help but notice the difference.

"Oh, man," he said when asked what he had seen of the course. "It's a heck of a lot longer than what we played in 2002. It's going to be a great test all week. You're going to have to hit the ball pretty good here." Hazeltine gets most of its length in the par 5s, the shortest of which is 572 yards and might be the only one where players can try to reach in two shots. Conveniently enough, the

left side of the green is guarded by water.

The others are 633 yards (No. 3), 606 yards (No. 11) and 642 yards (No. 15).

The yardage, however, is just a number.

U.S. PGA Championship director Kerry Haigh is known to move tees around, making it play shorter and adjusting to the weather. He might move the tees up on the par-4 12th (518 yards) and the par-3 13th (248 yards), or one of the par 5s. "There's a lot of scope to adjusting the setup," Ogilvy said. "It appears there might be a few holes they can play forward. The best hole is the 14th (352 yards), and I hope they move that up so you can have a go at the green."

Wouldn't that be a relatively easy hole?

"There are 17 other bogey holes out there," Ogilvy replied.

Attention shifts from the course to the guys playing it Thursday. The defending champion is Padraig Harrington, who showed his return to form in a spirited duel that Woods won last week at the Bridgestone Invitational. Phil Mickelson missed the British Open while tending to his wife's battle with breast cancer, and he's hopeful of ending



Los Angeles Sparks' Candace Parker (3) is stopped by New YorkLiberty'sJanelMcCarville (4) during the second half of a WNBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2009. New York won the game 65-61.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Shameka Christon scored 11 points and Loree Moore added 10 as the New York his turbulent summer on a high note.

Masters champion Angel Cabrera, U.S. Open champion Lucas Glover and British Open champion Stewart Cink already have hit their high and are looking for more.

Cabrera would be expected to have the best chance because he has been pounding the driver lately, so his answer was no surprise when asked if he liked the golf course.

"Si," he replied.

And why is that?

"Es largo (It's long)."

trubu TODAY

Still, the strongest field of the year — 98 out of the top 100 in the world ranking typically allows for multiple possibilities.

'This golf course, for a long course, doesn't necessarily favor a long hitter as most other courses do," Paul Goydos said. "It favors a good player. It's amazing how golf works out that way."

WNBA Roundup

Christon scores 11 points in Liberty's 65-61 win

Liberty rallied in the second Alana Beard scored 17 points half for a 65-61 victory over the turnover-prone Los Angeles Sparks on Tuesday. Sparks' two-game winning streak ended a night after beating Indiana, the best team in the league. Lisa Leslie became the first WNBA player to score 6,000 points in that win, and she followed it up with 12 points against the Liberty.

New York ended its longest road trip of the season with a 2-3 record. The Liberty, last in the Eastern Conference, improved to 4-8 on the road and split the season series. Janel McCarville was held to 8 points, well below the 18.8 she had averaged in five previous games.

Candace Parker scored all of her 11 points in the second half and grabbed 11 rebounds for the Sparks, who committed 18 turnovers.

Shock 81, Mystics 77

At Washington, Deanna Nolan scored 23 points as Detroit beat Washington.

Taj McWilliams had 17 points and 13 rebounds, rookie Shavonte Zellous added 16 points and the Shock (9-11) won for the third time in four games. Detroit's loss in that stretch was a fourpoint defeat last Friday at the Verizon Center.

to lead the Mystics (11-11), who dropped into a tie with Atlanta for third place in the Eastern Conference - one-half game behind Connecticut.

Nolan's 15-foot jumper from near the top of the key with 1:29 left gave Detroit a 72-70 lead.

Monarchs 90, Silver Stars 73

At San Antonio, Rebekkah Brunson had 19 points and nine rebounds to lead Sacramento past San Antonio.

Nicole Powell added 17 points for the Monarchs (6-17). Scholanda Robinson scored 13 points, Kara Lawson had 12 and Ticha Penicheiro added 11 assists. Brunson, who returned to

the lineup on Saturday after missing the previous seven games with a right knee strain, hit 8 of 10 shots as Sacramento shot 56 percent from the field.

Sophia Young scored 14 points and Vickie Johnson had 12 to lead the Silver Stars (10-12), who have lost four of their last six and squandered a chance to move into a tie with Minnesota for third place in the Western Conference.

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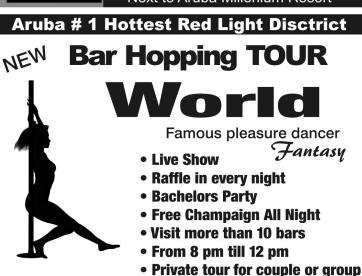
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Colombia espera cerrar acuerdo bases EEUU fin semana

BOGOTA (Reuters) Colombia espera cerrar este fin de semana un acuerdo militar con Estados Unidos, que permitirá a soldados del país norteamericano usar bases en la nación andina para operaciones antidrogas y el cual ha sido foco de controversia entre varios países de Sudamérica.

El comandante de las Fuerzas Militares, general Freddy Padilla, informó el miércoles que funcionarios de los ministerios de Defensa, del Interior y Justicia, así como de la cancillería viajaron a Washington para finiquitar los detalles y dejar el acuerdo listo para la firma de los respectivos gobiernos.

"Las personas (que viajaron) tienen la autoridad por parte



Foto de archivo del comandante de las Fuerzas Militares de Colombia, Freddy Padilla, durante una entrevista con Reuters en Bogotá, 26 jun 2009. Colombia espera cerrar este fin de semana un acuerdo militar con Estados Unidos, que permitirá a soldados del país norteamericano usar bases en la nación andina para operaciones antidrogas y el cual ha sido foco de controversia entre varios países de Sudamérica. REUTERS/Jose Miguel Gomez

del Gobierno para llegar a y en Colombia por parte de un acuerdo", dijo Padilla a Reuters.

"Esperamos, confiando en Dios, que puedan llegar a un acuerdo final, detal suerte que el siguiente paso es aquellos aspectos administrativos que deben realizarse en Estados Unidos por parte del estadounidense

nuestro Gobierno", agregó. El anuncio del acuerdo

provocó una oleada de críticas e incertidumbre por parte de varios países de la región, como Venezuela, congeló que relaciones diplomáticas y comerciales con el Gobierno presidente Alvaro Uribe,

al considerar que es una amenaza para la soberanía del país petrolero.

Padilla visitó congresistas colombianos la base aérea de Palanquero, una de las siete que podrá ser utilizada por Estados Unidos para las operaciones antidrogas.

La tormenta desatada en torno al convenio llevó a los miembros de la Unión de Naciones Suramericanas (Unasur) a convocar a una reunión extraordinaria de mandatarios en una fecha que aún no ha sido definida para debatir el tema.

Colombia, el principal aliado de Estados Unidos en la región, ha reiterado que el uso de las bases por parte de fuerzas estadounidenses se realizarábajolacoordinación de las autoridades locales.

Con el plan, Estados Unidos busca relocalizar operativos antidrogas y antiguerrilla que hacía desde la base ecuatoriana de Manta, que utilizó por una década hasta julio pasado, cuando el presidente Rafael Correa decidió no extender el

Ecuador acoge parte de resoluciones de **CAN sobre Colombia**

QUITO (AP) - Ecuador informó el miércoles que no obedecerá la recomendación de la Comunidad Andina de Naciones de retirar los aranceles a todos los productos colombianos que gravó para corregir distorsiones comerciales, pero aceptó excluir cientos de productos que en la práctica no registran comercio bilateral.

La ministra coordinadora de la Producción, Nataly Celi, señaló que "está todavía en análisis" la resolución 1251 del que la CAN emitió el 8 de agostó, según la cual los aranceles aplicados a 1.346 partidas constituyen "un gravamen" que es "incompatible con los objetivos del Programa de Liberación del Acuerdo de Cartagena".

El organismo regional dio 15 días para que Ecuador remueva la medida. Cely señaló que el gobierno defenderá su posición en los próximos días. Desde el 10 de julio Ecuador aplicó gravó temporalmente las importaciones provenientes de Colombia con aranceles de entre 5 y 86% aduciendo que lo hacía para corregir distorsiones comerciales generadas por devaluaciones del peso colombiano frente al dólar, la moneda de uso corriente en Ecuador.

La medida, que podría ser aplicada hasta máximo por un año, fue rechazada por los colombianos y es analizada en el seno de la CAN, que en la resolución 1250 del mismo día que antes citada, reconoció que la devaluación del peso colombiano "ha alterado las condiciones normales de competencia en el mercado ecuatoriano".

Presidente de Costa Rica trabaja desde casa por H1N1

SAN JOSE (Reuters) - El presidente de Costa Rica, Oscar Arias, trabajaba el miércoles desde casa para recibir tratamiento por la influenza H1N1, pero autoridades dijeron que podría recuperarse la semana entrante ante la debilidad de los síntomas.

Médicos del Ministerio de Salud comenzaron a revisar a la gente que tuvo contacto con Arias, incluyendo a miembros de su gabinete, dijo la oficina del mandatario, un día después de que se le diagnosticó el virus. El premio Nobel de la Paz de 68 años se convirtió en la figura pública más importante en infectarse del virus que ha provocado una pandemia.

Arias está recibiendo el medicamento Tamiflu para combatir los síntomas de dolor de cuerpo y de garganta, pero seguía trabajando frente a su computadora y contestando llamadas telefónicas, dijo la portavoz de la presidencia, Lisbeth Barbosa. "Seguramente regresará a cumplir con su agenda el lunes", dijo Barbosa. La tarde del miércoles, la vice ministra de Salud, Ana Morice, dijo a la televisión local que Arias había dejado de tener fiebre y principalmente tenía dolor de garganta.

Desde el mes pasado, Arias ha sido mediador en la crisis política desatada en Honduras por el golpe de estado del 28 de junio contra el ahora depuesto presidente Manuel Zelaya.

En Costa Rica más de 20 personas han muerto a causa de la influenza H1N1. En general, los síntomas de la enfermedad son leves y la tasa de mortalidad baja, pero varias empresas farmacéuticas ya están haciendo esfuerzos para producir una vacuna para que esté disponible antes del invierno boreal.

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